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Subsequent experiments on the transportation of cancer by the blood of mice and likewise by ultrafiltrates of cancer (with the filtration carried out through colloidal dialysis? bags) and of sarcoma of rats and mice (185 filtered tumors per 314 experiments) enabled us in 1934 to advance a theory of the formation of malignant tumor cells from the elementary particles of a specific parasite which has virus stages. Prof F. M. Brinker (1935), A. A. Bogomolets (1937), and later on, N. F. Gamaleya, recognized the significance of our work on filtrates. In 1935, tumors were classified as virus diseases by the decision of a special meeting held at the Academy of Sciences USSR.

It is well known that nobody has yet succeeded in transforming normal cells into tumor cells in a tissue culture either by means of a cancerogenic substance or a virus, nor has anyone observed the malignization of cells around the periphery of a growing tumor. On the other hand, experimental oncology has accumulated plentiful data showing that elementary particles of the virus-parasite constitute the etiological factor of tumors. These elementary particles were discovered by us in cell-free filtrates and ultrafiltrates of tumors as early as 1933, and similar results were also obtained by Pashen and Malomos. The elementary particles forming the causative factor of certain tumors could be propagated in cultures [cultivated in artificial media?].

It has been shown in a number of investigations that tumors can be transmitted by parasitic worms, insects, and apparently also rodents, while contagion as a result of direct contact with a patient does not arise.

In 1946, Prof M. A. Morozov established the presence of elementary particles of the causative factor in rabbit fibroma, and in 1949 in breast cancer of mice belonging to cancer-susceptible strains.

In present, the elementary particles of rabbit myxoma, of human lymphogranuloma inguinale, and of rat sarcoma have been cultivated. Experiments carried out by M. K. Ebert, M. F. Runova, and L. A. Zil'ber confirmed the existence of antibodies against the tumor virus in the blood of diseased animals. M. F. Runova and I have proven the presence of a toxin in recent cancerous tumors of rats. As N. F. Gamaleya had already stated in his Medical Microbiology in 1943, the virus origin of tumors has been definitely proven.

The Russian school of oncology, which was founded by M. M. Rudnev in 1870, has made a very valuable contribution to world science.

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